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Docket No.: SHO-0029

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Takanobu Adachi et al:

Application No.: 10/697,259

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: GAMING MACHINE

Confirmation No.: 9215

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

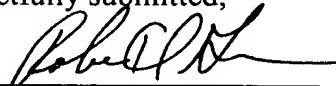
- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

☒ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. **No fee is required** (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). The Patent Office is **NOT AUTHORIZED** to charge deposit account 18-0013 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p). However, **ONLY IF** a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the fee under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p).

Dated: May 26, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)
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| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/697,259 Conf. 9215 |
| | | | | Filing Date | October 31, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Takanobu Adachi |
| | | | | Art Unit | N/A |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | SHO-0029 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ³ |
| | | Country Code ⁴ | Number-Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | BA | JP-2001-353255-A1 | | 12-25-2001 | Aruze Corp. | | |

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